



## RAIN GARDEN OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

All rain gardens must be maintained in proper working order for 10 years (5 years for single-family homes). At a minimum the following operation and maintenance items must be followed:

| Rain Garden Maintenance Activities   | Frequency / Notes  |
|--|--|
| Sediment Prevention (from surrounding areas)   | Keep watch on out parcels and parking lot use<br>Assure a stable watershed before installation |
| Sediment Removal (from garden & inlet)   | As needed or during mulch renewal  |
| Water Plants<br>(Plants will need 1 inch / week during the 1 <sup>st</sup> year)           | Right after planting, During the 1 <sup>st</sup> season, and<br>During time of drought         |
| Mulch Renewal (Addition of Mulch)<br><i>Use 3 inches of triple shredded hardwood mulch</i> | Add mulch annually<br>After 1 <sup>st</sup> frost (Fall) or last frost(Spring)                 |
| Mulch Removal (Replacement of Mulch)   | Every 3 years  |
| Weeding / Pruning  | During vegetation establishment and on a<br>regular basis once established                     |
| Plant Replacement  | Replant vegetation as needed. Monitor plant<br>health, especially right after planting         |
| Plant Removal  | Watch out for invasive species, remove as<br>needed  |
| Fertilize & Pesticide  | NEVER! Runoff is nutrient rich and the rain<br>garden should remove chemicals                  |
| Trash Removal  | Frequently (weekly or so) inspect for and remove<br>debris and trash, including pet waste      |
| Perimeter Mowing   | As needed ~ Do not blow grass clippings into the<br>rain garden (may add extra nutrients)      |

Any rain gardens found that are not being maintained as described above or any other issue which causes a rain garden to not perform its intended function may result in the applicant having to repay a prorated amount of the cost share funds received to install the practice.

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Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Landowner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date